

September 22nd, 2015

Unity Statement

Honourable Representative Klint Kesto and Judiciary Committee Members,

We represent local, state and national organizations that have played prominent roles in the advocacy of adopting and implementing effective medical marijuana policy in Michigan and many other states. These organizations represent diverse interests in the medical marijuana industry including medical marijuana patients, physicians, caregivers, advocates, provisioning centers, testing laboratories and many other entities that serve them.

This unity statement is issued to the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee to accurately express the organizations' strong support for patient safety while improving the efficacy of the medical marijuana industry in this state. The provisions contained in House Bills 4209, 4210 and 4827 and the substitute bills before you today reflect four years of work among major stakeholders to ensure patients gain consistent access to medicine that is clean, tested and safe. HB 4209 will greatly improve the quality of care and patient safety by regulating the distribution and production of the medical marijuana through safety compliance facilities and provisioning centers in communities that choose to allow, regulate and license them. HB 4210 would significantly assist our sickest patients (including minors) by providing legal protection to those undergoing smoking alternative treatments of medical marijuana and by setting reasonable regulation for their manufacturing and distribution.

The passage of this package of bills is critical and urgent. We are witness to a community of friends and loved ones who have and continue to struggle as they run out of time. Communities remain in limbo as to the current legal parameters of provisioning centers, which has caused inconsistent, unfair and often over reaching enforcement on provisioning center operators, owners, landlords, patients and caregivers. More importantly, this has resulted in limiting safe access to medication, especially non-smokeable forms of medical marijuana, which many medical marijuana patients suffering from cancer, AIDS, seizures and other chronic disease must have consistent access to in order to achieve a successful treatment in coordination with their physician and caregiver.

Thank you for your timely consideration of these pressing issues for Michigan's medical marijuana patients. We stand before you to urge swift

action, and remain committed to assisting this committee as you undertake the task of improving upon the Michigan Medical Marijuana Program.

Sincerely,
National Patients Rights Association
Marijuana Policy Project
Michigan Cannabis Development Association
Detroit Medical Cannabis Guild
Evergreen Management
Lansing Medical Cannabis Guild

